

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-03 SSO-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 SS-20 NSC-07

NSCE-00 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /063 W

----- 051685

O 271410Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2329

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 8585

FOLNG SENT NEW DELHI FROM CALCUTTA DATED JUN 27TH.

QUOTE: CALCUTTA 1318

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR CASC IN

SUBJECT : HARCOS/FLETCHER

1. ON JUNE 26 THE CONSULAR OFFICER CALLED ATTY. DUDHWEWALA TO FIND OUT WHETHER OR NOT THERE WAS ANY FURTHER WORD ABOUT THE APPEAL FILED WITH THE HIGH COURT BY THE PROSECUTION. HE SAID THAT THE PRISONERS HAD NOT YET RECEIVED THEIR NOTICE REGARDING THE APPEAL BUT THAT HE HAD ASCERTAINED THAT THE CASE IS DUE TO BE IN THE LIST OF THE HIGH COURT ON JULY 18, 1974. ALSO, ACCORDING TO HIM, HARCOS HAD LOST 26 LBS. AS OF SATURDAY, JUNE 22, THE DATE DUDHWEWALA LAST VISITED THE JAIL.

2. THE SAME DAY THE CONSULAR OFFICER CALLED THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PRESIDENCE JAIL TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE HEALTH OF MR. HARCOS AND MR. FLETCHER. SUPERINTENDENT MOKTAN SAID THEY WERE "DOING QUITE WELL," AND THAT THEIR WEIGHT, RESPIRATION, BLOOD PRESSURE, ETC., WAS NORMAL. THE CONSULAR OFFICER ASKED HOW THEIR WEIGHT COULD BE NORMAL IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THEY HAD BEEN ON A HUNGER STRIKE FOR 10 DAYS AND MENTIONED THAT SHE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT MR. HARCOS HAD LOST 26 LBS. THE SUPERINTENDENT SAID HE DID NOT

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THINK THE AMOUNT COULD BE CORRECT BUT WOULD INFORM THE CONSULAR

OFFICER ABOUT THE MATTER ON THURSDAY. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT THEY HAD BEGUN FORCEFEEDING HARCOS AND FLETCHER AT NOON THAT DAY (WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26).

3. TODAY, JUNE 27, A SHORT ITEM TITLED "FAST FOR TRIAL" APPEARED ON PAGE 5 OF THE MORNING PAPER, THE "HINDUSTAN STANDARD." THE STORY STATED THAT TWO U.S. AND ONE INDIAN NATIONAL, IN A CALCUTTA JAIL FOR AN ALLEGED OFFENCE IN THE PORT AREA, WENT ON A HUNGER STRKE FIVE DAYS AGO DEMANDING A SPEEDY TRIAL. IT WENT ON TO STATE THAT WEST BENGAL'S MINISTER FOR PRISONS SAID THEY WERE GIVEN "NASAL FEEDING" FROM WEDNESDAY AND THAT THEIR "HEALTH CONDITION WAS GOOD." PICKERING UNQUOTE SCHNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, CONSULAR LEGAL ASSISTANCE, PRISONERS WELFARE, TRIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974NEWDE08585  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740170-0026  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** : HARCOS/FLETCHER  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CASC, IN, (HARCOS), (FLETCHER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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